**Social Studies 8 Unit: The Thirteen Colonies (1620 to 1763)**

***Expectations for Learning- Students will…***

*1. Analyze primary and secondary sources to describe the different perspectives on an issue relating to a historical event in U.S. history and to present and defend a position.*

*2. Explain the economic and religious reasons for the exploration and colonization of North America by Europeans*

*3. Explain how competition for control of territory and resources in North America led to conflicts among colonizing powers.*

*4. Explain how the practice of race-based slavery led to the forced migration of Africans to the American colonies.*

*5. Describe the contributions of enslaved and free Africans to cultural and economic development in different regions of the American Colonies.*

*6. Map, compare, and contrast the 4 Geographic regions of the 13 English-American Colonies: New England, Middle, Southern, and Back Country / Frontier.*

**Guiding Questions**

1. How did settlers interact with the environment in the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies as well as on the frontier or “back country”, and what were the distinguishing characteristics of each region?

2. What role did the religious differences among the Europeans play in the drive to colonize America, and how did these differences then impact the expansion of colonies?

3. How did democratic rights and institutions developed in England carry over to the English colonies in America? How did English rights impact the growth of English colonies? What different forms of local and colonial self-government were developed in the different English colonies so that each could function without direct control from London ?

4. How did early conflicts between colonial powers and between colonists and Native Americans impact the expansion of European colonies? How did mercantilism involving the colonies benefit the home or mother country?

5. What role did indentured servants and slaves serve in the colonies?

6. What characteristics of England’s 13 American Colonies are still evident in the United States today? Where in this unit of study did you see evidence of your American Themes?